

Message Text

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PAGE 01 LENDING 00271 040658Z

10

ACTION CU-03

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 SS-15 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07

NSAE-00 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SAM-01 /043 W

----- 006095

R 040730Z MAR 75

FM AMCONSUL LENINGRAD

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1056

INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

USIA WASHDC

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE LENINGRAD 0271

EO 11652N/A

TAGS: OTRA, OEXC, SCUL, UR, US

SUBJ: VISIT OF US MAYORS TO LENINGRAD

1. CONGEN, PRACTICALLY SPEAKING, LEARNED ONLY AFTER THE FACT FROM LENINGRAD PRESS REPORTS OF PRESENCE HERE OF GROUP OF US MAYORS AND CITY OFFICIALS ON TOUR SPONSORED BY NATIONAL LEAGUE OF CITIES AND US CONFERENCE OF MAYORS. MEMBERS OF GROUP WERE RECEIVED BY LENINGRAD CITY EXECUTIVE COUNCIL OFFICIALS AND HAD OTHER OFFICIAL CONTACTS WHILE TOURING LENINGRAD.

2. I CONSIDER IT MOST UNFORTUNATE AND UNDESIRABLE THAT PRESTIGE GROUP OF THIS NATURE SHOULD COME AND GO WITHOUT CONGEN'S BEING NOTIFIED IN ADVANCE AND HENCE ABLE TO PARTICIPATE VISIBLY. IT MAKES OUR POSITION AWKWARD IN EYES OF LENINGRAD OFFICIALS SINCE CONSUL GENERAL OR OTHER CONGEN OFFICER WOULD NORMALLY ACCOMPANY SUCH US OFFICIALS ON CALLS AT CITY HALL. MOREOVER, WITH ADVANCE KNOWLEDGE OF GROUP'S VISIT, CONGEN WOULD HAVE CONSIDERED ARRANGING APPROPRIATE REPRESENTATIONAL FUNCTION.

3. CONGEN APPRECIATES FACT THAT SOME GROUPS MAKE TOUR ARRANGEMENTS PRIVATELY AND, THEREFORE, DEPARTMENT MAY NOT HAVE BEEN AWARE OF MAYORS' TRAVEL. HOWEVER, TO
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EXTENT DEPARTMENT OR USIA KNOWS OF SUCH PLANNED OR

PROJECTED TRAVEL, POST URGES THAT WE BE INFORMED AS
MUCH IN ADVANCE AS POSSIBLE.

4. INCIDENTALLY, CONGEN MADE CONTACT WITH MAYOR LEE
ALEXANDER OF SYRACUSE JUST PRIOR TO GROUP'S DEPARTURE AND
MAYOR SAID GROUP HAD MADE OFFICIAL CALLS WHILE IN
MOSCOW, INCLUDING ONE ON MAYOR PROMYSLOV, MAYOR ALEXANDER
WAS UNAWARE OF ANY CONTACT WITH EMBASSY DURING MOSCOW
PORTION OF VISIT.
NEUBERT

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